

Introduction

Procedure Codes

The following types of procedure codes are used within these Physician-Related Services Billing Instructions:

- Current Procedure Terminology (CPT™); and
- Level II Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS).

Procedures performed must match the description and guidelines from the most current CPT or HCPCS manual for all MAA-covered services. **Due to copyright restrictions, MAA publishes only the official brief CPT descriptions. To view the full CPT description, please refer to your current CPT manual.**



Note: MAA specifies in these billing instructions when MAA's guidelines differ from CPT. MAA adopts Medicare's guidelines and policies whenever possible.

Diagnosis Codes

MAA uses ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes for physician-related services. Providers are required to use the code of the highest specificity (5-digit codes) from the ICD-9-CM manual when available.

MAA does not cover the following diagnosis codes when billed as the primary diagnosis:

- E codes (Supplementary Classification);
- M codes (Morphology of Neoplasms); and
- Most V codes.

MAA reimburses providers for only those covered procedure codes and diagnosis codes that are within their scope of practice.

Grace Period for Discontinued Codes

Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2005, MAA will adopt Medicare's policy eliminating the grace period for discontinued CPT and HCPCS procedure codes and ICD-9-CM diagnosis codes.

Noncovered Services [WAC 388-531-1900]

Procedures that are noncovered are noted with a pound (#) indicator in the Nonfacility Setting (NFS) and Facility Setting (FS) columns in the fee schedule.

If a client has extenuating medical circumstances that are not covered under the client's MAA program and the medical provider feels MAA should take these into consideration for coverage, the provider must submit a written request to MAA for an Exception to Rule (ETR). **A sample form is located on page I.3.** The provider may use the sample form or submit equivalent information to MAA at the address listed below.

Send written requests for ETR to:

MAA – Division of Medical Management
Attn: Medical Request Coordinator
PO Box 45506
Olympia, WA 98504-5506
FAX: (360) 586-1471

The following are examples of administrative costs and/or services not covered separately by MAA:

- Missed or canceled appointments;
- Mileage;
- Take-home drugs;
- Educational supplies or services;
- Copying expenses, reports, client charts, insurance forms;
- Service charges/delinquent payment fees;
- Telephoning for prescription refills; and
- Other areas as specified in this fee schedule.

Noncovered Practitioners [WAC 388-531-0250]

MAA does not reimburse for services performed by any of the following practitioners:

- Acupuncturists;
- Naturopaths;
- Homeopaths;
- Herbalists;
- Masseurs, masseuses;
- Christian Science practitioners or theological healers;
- Counselors (i.e., M.A. and M.S.N.);
- Sanipractors;
- Those who have a master's degree in social work (M.S.W.), except those employed by an FQHC;
- Any other licensed or unlicensed practitioners not otherwise specifically provided for in WAC 388-502-0010;
- Any other licensed practitioners providing services that are not within the scope of the practitioner's license; and
- Any other licensed practitioners providing services that the practitioner is not trained to provide.

Clients Enrolled in MAA's Managed Care Plans

Many MAA clients are enrolled in one of MAA's managed care plans. These clients have an HMO identifier in the HMO column on their DSHS Medical ID card. They also receive an ID card from the managed care plan in which they are enrolled. Clients enrolled in one of MAA's managed care plans must obtain services through their managed care plan.



Note: A client's enrollment can change monthly. Prior to serving a managed care client, make sure you receive approval from both the plan and the client's primary care provider (PCP), if required.

Send claims to the client's managed care plan for payment. Call the client's HMO to discuss payment prior to providing the service. Providers may bill clients only in very limited situations as described in WAC 388-502-0160.

By Report (BR)

Services with a **BR** indicator in the fee schedule (Section J) with billed charges of \$1,100.00 or greater require a detailed report for payment purposes. Attach the report to the claim. **DO NOT** attach a report to the claim for services with a BR indicator with billed charges under \$1,100.00 unless requested by MAA.

Acquisition Cost (AC)

Drugs with an **AC** indicator in the fee schedule (Section J) with billed charges of \$1,100.00 or greater, or supplies with billed charges of \$50.00 or greater, require a manufacturer's invoice for payment purposes. Attach the invoice to the claim. **DO NOT** attach an invoice to the claim for procedure codes with an AC indicator for drugs with billed charges under \$1,100.00, or supplies with billed charges under \$50.00, unless requested by MAA.

Conversion Factors

These conversion factors multiplied by the Relative Value Units (RVUs) establish the rates in this fee schedule.

	7/1/98	7/1/99	7/1/00	7/1/01	7/1/02	7/1/03	7/1/04
Maternity	\$43.19	\$44.20	\$45.33	\$45.34	\$45.59	\$45.59	\$44.46
Anesthesia	\$12.75	\$12.96	\$15.10	\$15.49	\$15.70	\$20.23	\$20.24
Children's Primary Health Care	\$39.11	\$37.49	\$35.89	\$36.52	\$35.62	\$35.62	\$34.25
Adult Primary Health Care	\$23.67	\$22.47	\$21.17	\$21.27	\$20.44	\$25.00	\$25.00
All Other Procedure Codes	\$22.27	\$21.93	\$22.37	\$22.41	\$22.75	\$22.75	\$22.67
Clinical Lab Multiplication Factor	.667	.689	.694	.720	.719	.810	.797

National Correct Coding Initiative

MAA continues to evaluate and implement the National Correct Coding Initiative (NCCI) policy. This policy was created by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to promote national correct coding methodologies. CCI assists MAA in controlling improper coding that may lead to inappropriate payment. MAA bases coding policies on the American Medical Association's Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) manual, national and local policies and edits, coding guidelines developed by national professional societies, the analysis and review of standard medical and surgical practices, and review of current coding practices. These correct coding policies do not necessarily supercede any other specific MAA coding, coverage, or payment policies, unless specifically stated. Visit the NCCI on the web at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/physicians/ccredits/default.asp? - comp>.